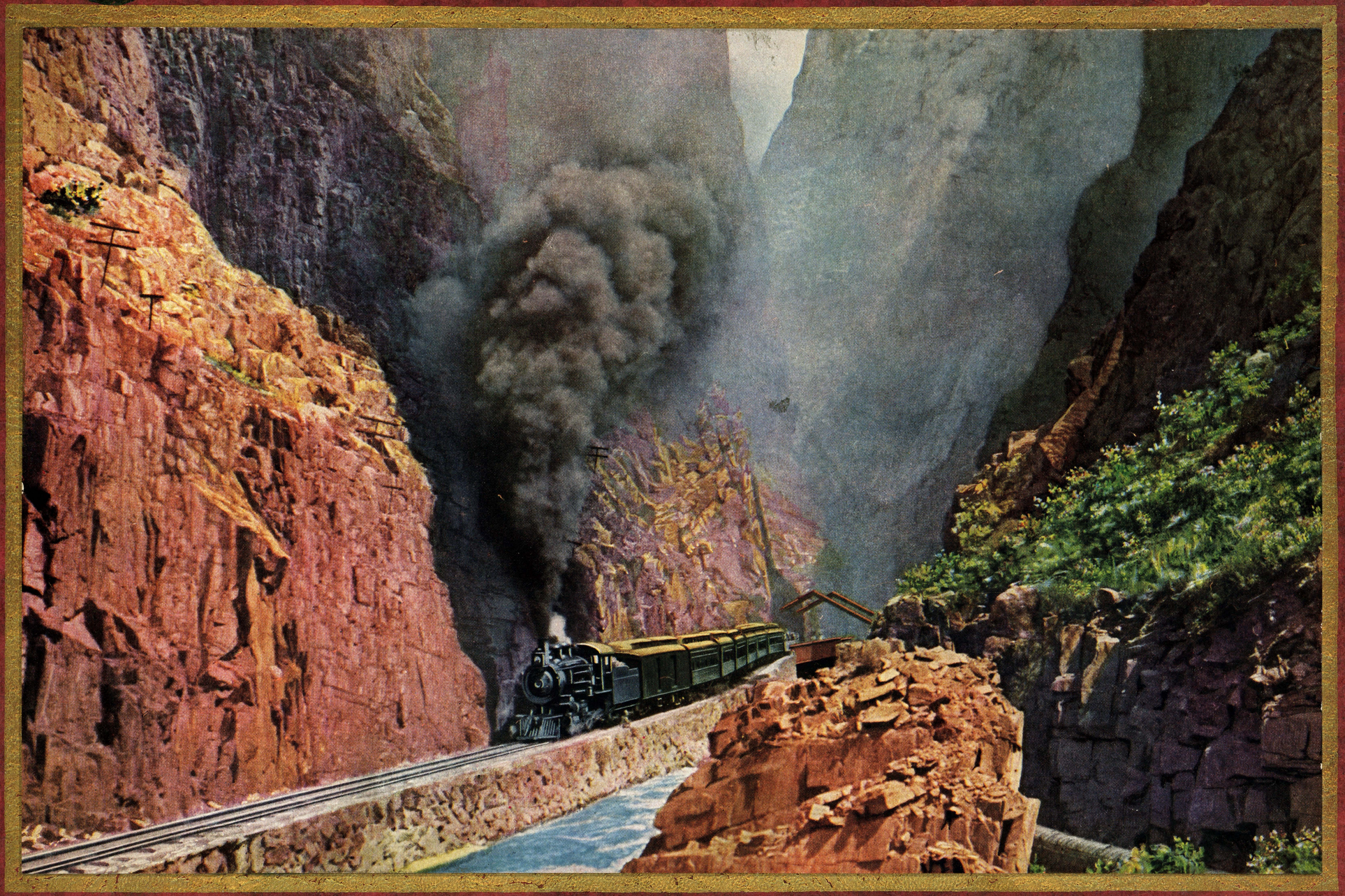
Rocky Mountain Views



of the Rio Grande . The Scenic Line of the World

ROCKY MOUNTAIN VIEWS

nde, "Scenic Line *of* the World"

of Twenty-Three Colored Views from Recent Photographs

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THE DENVER & RIO GRANDE WESTERN RAILROAD

Engraved, Printed and Published by
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DENVER, COLORADO
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On the Rio Grande, "Scenic Line *of* the World"

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Explanation of Subjects Illustrated

DENVER, COLORADO

Looking from the steps of the State Capital across the green lawns of the Denver Civic Center, toward the snow-capped Colorado Rockies, Mount Evans, highest of the citadels in white, keeping vigil three miles above sea level in the Denver Mountain Parks, for Denver far below.

—Courtesy Denver Tourist Bureau.

CASTLE ROCK

Thirty-three miles from Denver the tourist will observe, to the left, beautiful Castle Rock, one of Colorado's landmarks in the days of the old wagon trains across the prairies, before the time of steam roads. Wasted away for centuries, it is left in the form of a large castle, from which the town of Castle Rock gets its name.

PALMER LAKE

Palmer Lake is a beautiful sheet of water, 52 miles south of Denver. This point was formerly called "Divide"—a very significant and appropriate title, as on the crest of this summit the waters divide, flowing northward into the Platte, which empties into the Missouri, and southward into the Arkansas as it wends its way to the Mississippi. This lake was named in honor of General Palmer, the projector and builder of the Denver & Rio Grande Western Railroad, recognized as the most beautiful scenic line in the world.

ELEPHANT ROCK

This is one of the most remarkable freaks of Nature in the Rockies. Nature's mysterious forces have here fashioned out of rock a gigantic likeness of an elephant, which is so true to life as to be actually startling in realism, and one might imagine its having been transplanted from India's jungles.

COLORADO SPRINGS

The city of sunshine and broad streets, nestling at the foot of Pike's Peak, whose hoary head is seen rising into the clouds in the distance. It is a beautiful city of 30,000 people, 6,000 feet above the sea. Many of the most famous scenic trips of the Rockies are made from this point, including the Crystal Park Auto Drive, Cheyenne Canon, Seven Falls, Helen Hunt's grave, Cave of the Winds, Garden of the Gods and the famous cog-road leading to the summit of Pike's Peak.

MANITOU

The paradise of the Colorado tourist is the little city of Manitou, five miles from Colorado Springs, at the foot of Pike's Peak, on a branch of the Denver & Rio Grande Western Railroad. There are more places of extraordinary interest to visit in the vicinity of Manitou than can be found contiguous to any other resort in the world. Here are the famous effervescent soda and iron springs, which in an early day gave the name of "Springs" to the town of Colorado Springs. It was here that the Indians brought their sick before the advent of the white man, naming the place "Manitou" after their Great Spirit. This is the starting point for many side trips of interest to the tourist, such as the Garden of the Gods, Williams Canon, Cave of the Winds, Cheyenne Canon, Seven Falls, Helen Hunt's grave, Crystal Park Auto Drive and the summit of Pike's Peak.

SKY LINE DRIVE AND CANON CITY

Nestling in a pocket of the foothills of the Rockies at the eastern entrance of the famous Royal Gorge lies the orchard town of Canon City, guarding the mouth of the Grand Canon of the Arkansas. Well-ordered fruit trees, berry patches and truck gardens are everywhere. Soil and climate vie to make Canon City a large and famous producer. The town is one of beautiful streets and homes, has an important coal output, and possesses iron and soda springs, hot and cold. It has 1,000 miles of fine auto roads, and modern hotel accommodations. The Sky Line Drive is a noted scenic trip, being used en route to the top of the Royal Gorge, whence one may gaze down to the bottom of the abyss 2,627 feet, nearly a half mile. At Canon City is located the State Penitentiary. Stopovers will be allowed on the Denver & Rio Grande Western within ticket limits. Canon City has a population of about 6,500.

THE ROYAL GORGE

(Illustration also on cover)

Leaving Canon City the train winds its way along the river to the entrance of the Royal Gorge, which is a gigantic chasm in the heart of the mountains, cut from the summits of the lofty peaks to the very foundation stones. At the bottom flows the Arkansas River, "the mother of the Royal Gorge." Along this river follows the Denver & Rio Grande Western Railroad, an engineering feat once looked upon as well-nigh impossible. Farther and farther as we penetrate this canon, it becomes narrower and the massive walls become higher; in the center of the Gorge it is 30 feet wide at the base, while the walls rise 2,627 feet above the track. At this point there was not sufficient room for the railroad and the river to run side by side, hence it was necessary to build the famous Hanging Bridge, which is suspended parallel with the river by immense steel supporters buried in the granite walls on either side. For ten miles wonder after wonder of Nature's mysterious grandeur is presented to the tourist on the trip through the grand old Canon of the Arkansas.

SALIDA AND MOUNT OURAY

Cuddled in one of the innumerable valleys found among the Rockies is Salida, a beautiful little city of 5,000 souls, surrounded by lofty mountains, which shield it from the cold blasts of winter and render it a delight-

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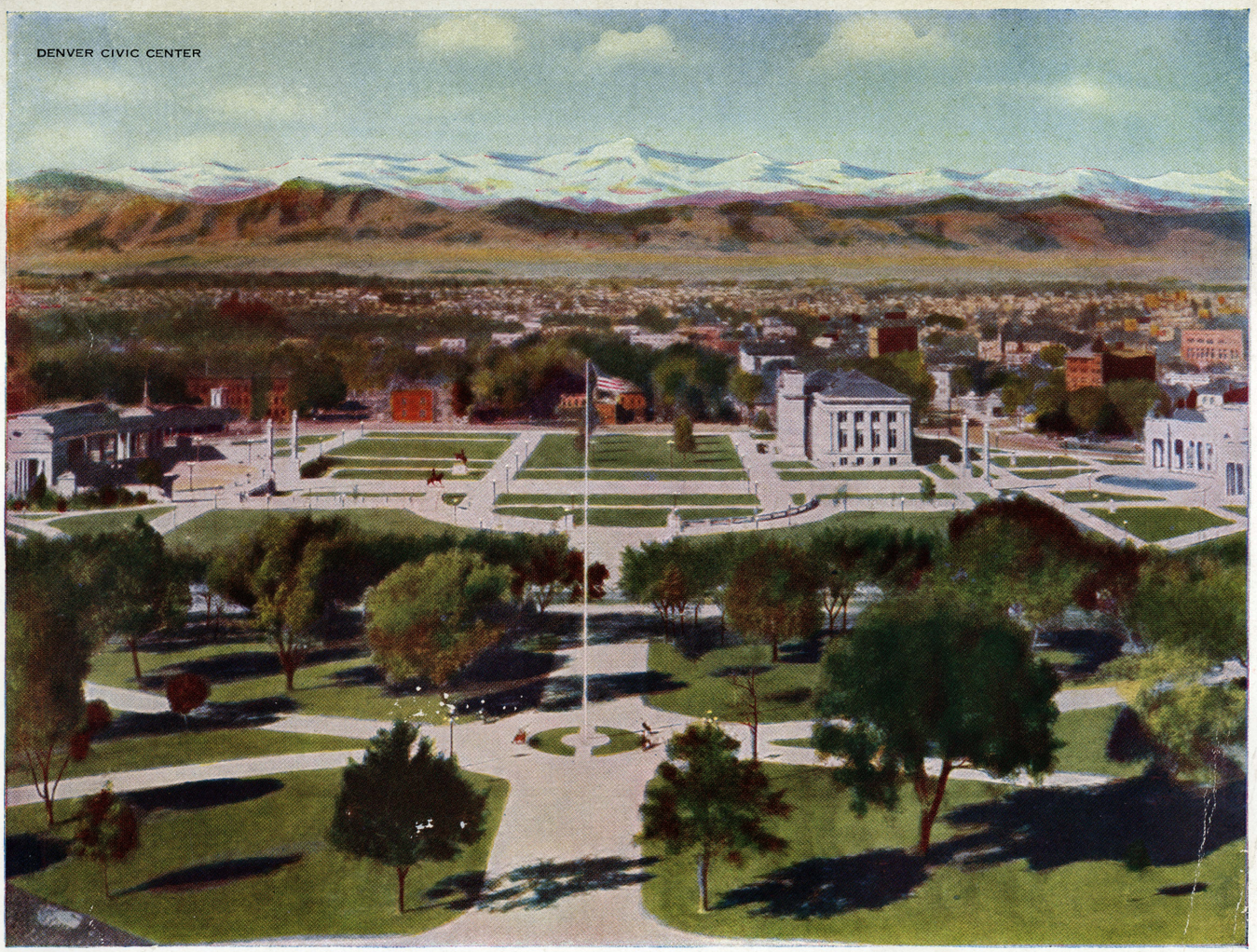
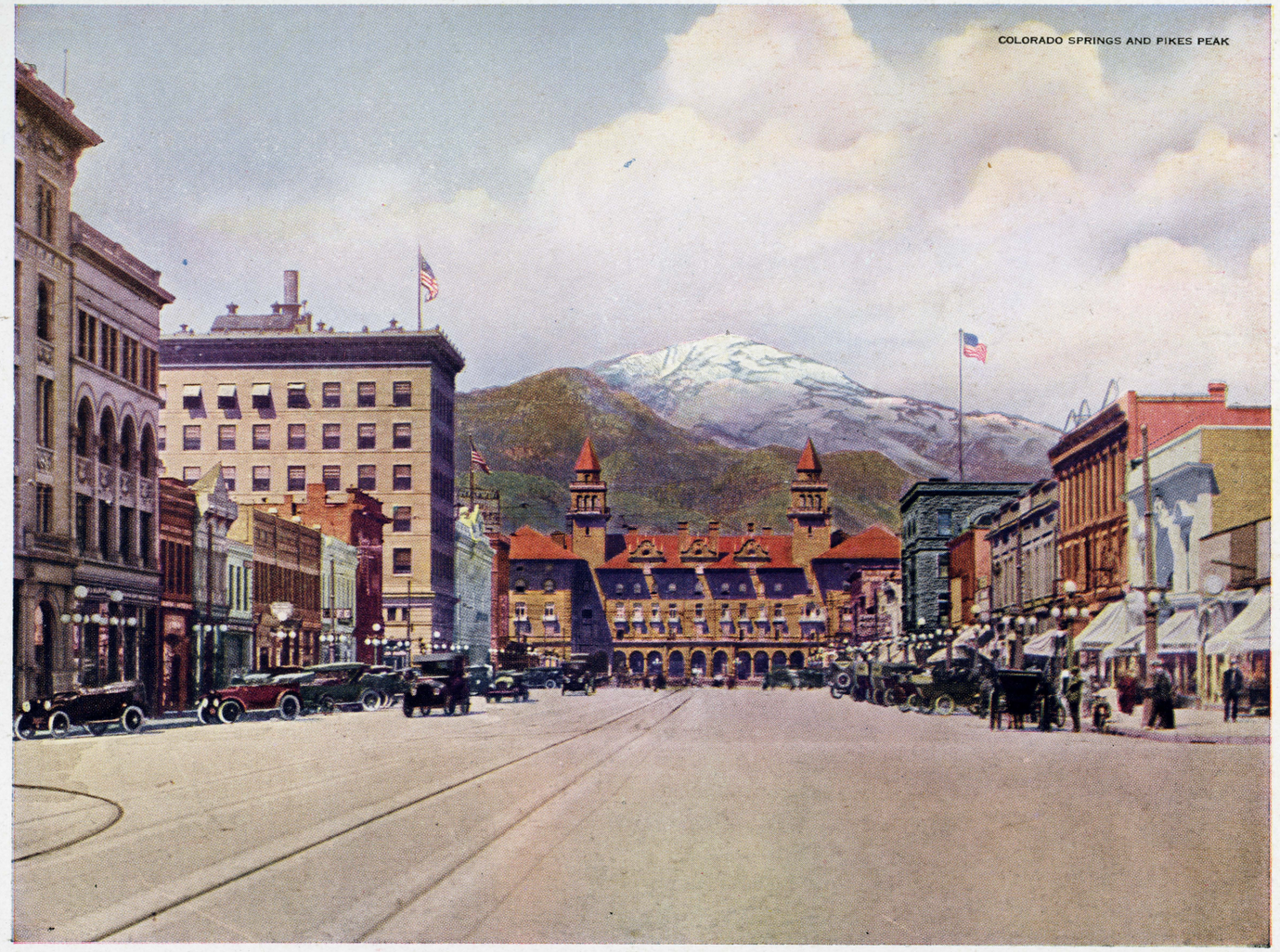

DENVER CIVIC CENTER

CASTLE ROCK

PALMER LAKE

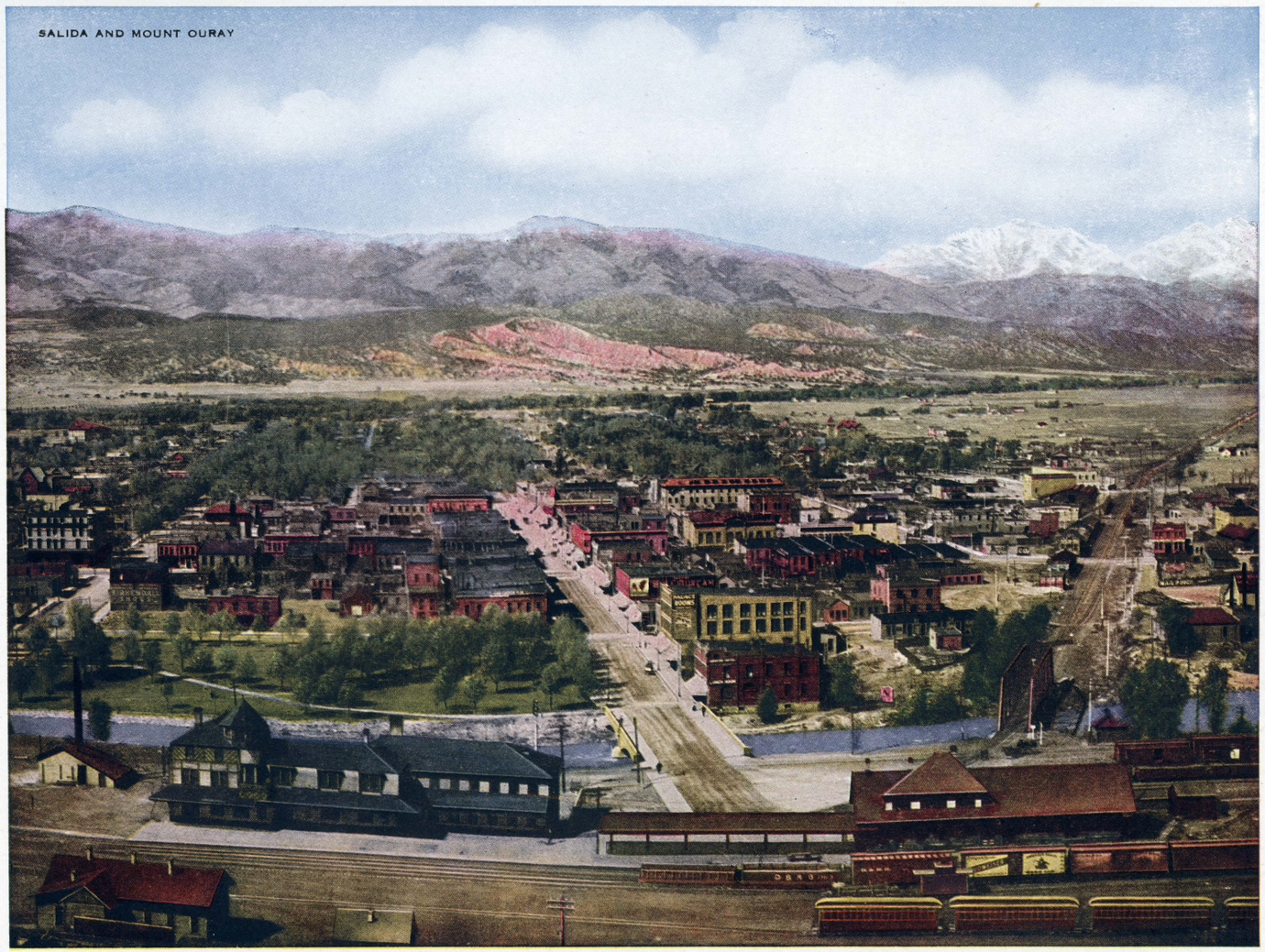
ELEPHANT ROCK


COLORADO SPRINGS AND PIKES PEAK

MANITOU AND PIKE'S PEAK

SKYLINE DRIVE AND CANON CITY

ON THE BRINK OF THE ROYAL GORGE
A PERPENDICULAR HALF-MILE TO THE RIVER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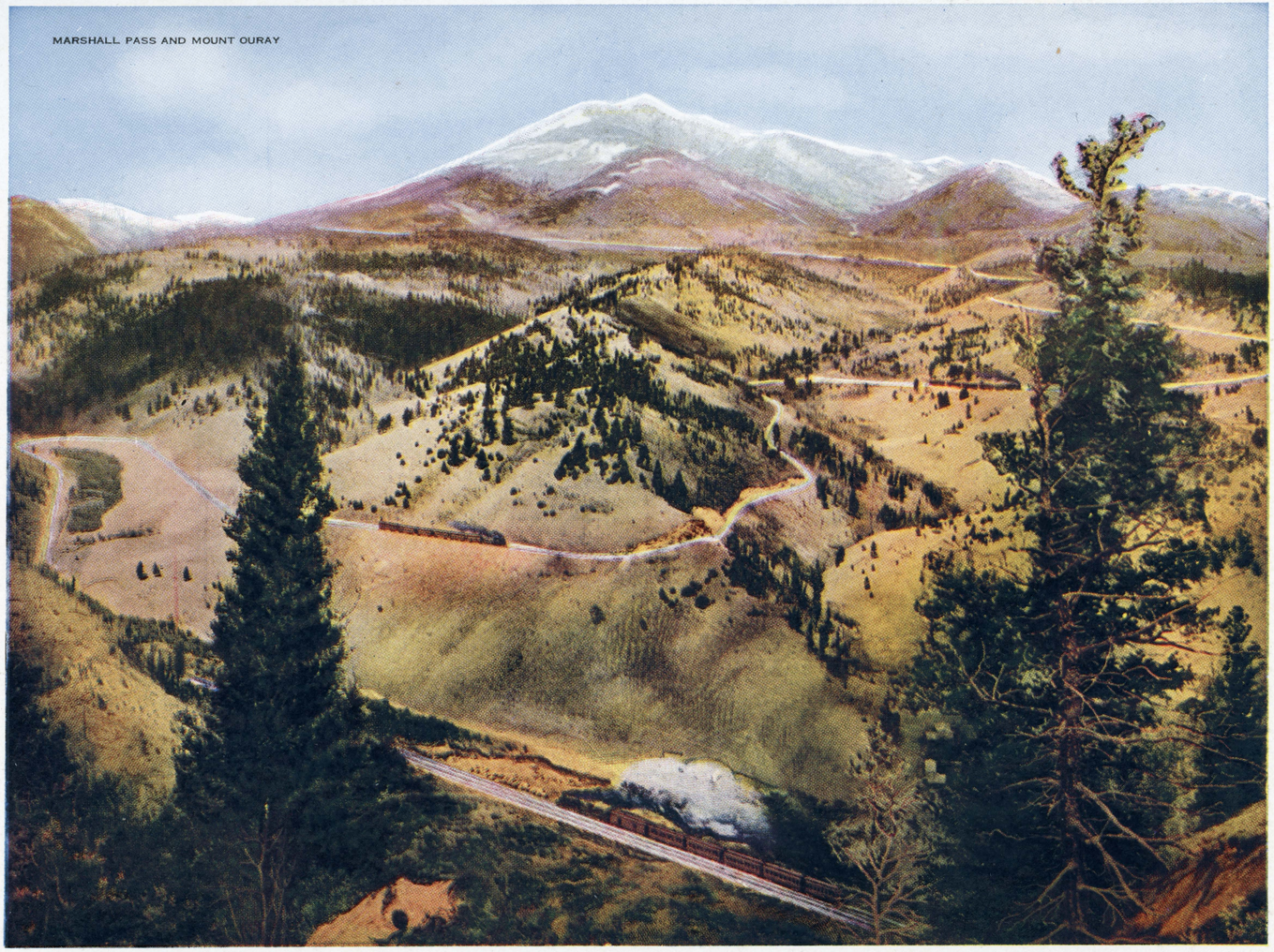

MARSHALL PASS AND MOUNT OURAY

THE SNOW ANGEL OF MOUNT SHAVANO

SUMMIT OF PIKE'S PEAK

LEADVILLE AND MOUNT MASSIVE

EAGLE RIVER CANON

MOUNT OF THE HOLY CROSS

WALLS OF THE CANON, COLORADO RIVER

SHOSHONE

HANGING LAKE

GLENWOOD SPRINGS

CURECANTI NEEDLE, BLACK CANON OF THE GUNNISON

TOLTEC GORGE

ANIMAS CANON

Explanation of Subjects Illustrated—*Continued*

ful place in the summer time. Salida is an important divisional headquarters of the Denver & Rio Grande Western, which has four lines radiating from this point. The tourist will find Salida a most delightful place to stop over.

MARSHALL PASS AND MOUNT OURAY

This is the "Backbone of the Continent," 10,856 feet above the level of the sea, and reached by the Denver & Rio Grande Western Railroad after climbing the steepest grade of any trans-continental line in the world. In the back-ground is Mount Ouray, an extinct volcanic mountain nearly 14,000 feet above the sea and snow-covered the year round. The panoramic view from this point is most magnificent. The waters from the highest point reached by the railroad flow eastward to the Atlantic and westward to the Pacific.

THE SNOW ANGEL OF MOUNT SHAVANO

Mount Shavano is named after one of the old Indian Chiefs of the Ute Tribe. It is 14,238 feet high and is part of the Continental Divide. It overlooks the valley in which lies the beautiful little City of Salida and is also part of the Cochetopa National Forest.

The Angel is seen at its best in the late spring and early summer and is formed by the snow. The figure is about 500 feet long and the wing-spread is a little less. Several poems have been written on the Snow Angel.

SUMMIT OF PIKE'S PEAK

From midsummer to midwinter in an hour, is a trip on the Cog Road from Manitou to the top of Pike's Peak. Here, at an altitude of 14,109 feet, is the old observatory of the United States Signal Service, one of the highest in the world, now used as a terminal depot by the railroad company. To the west are the mighty Rockies, the "backbone of the continent," while for 200 miles to the north and the east, the eye may sweep the plains. A sunrise scene from this spot becomes the memory of a lifetime. This is the most widely known throughout the world of all mountain peaks.

LEADVILLE AND MOUNT MASSIVE

Still climbing skyward, we arrive at Malta. Here we get the first view of Leadville, the world's most famous mining camp, at the highest altitude of any incorporated city in the world—the home of the "Little Johnny," one of the richest gold mines in the state of Colorado. To the west stands snow-covered Mount Massive, as a sentinel guarding the city of treasures, for this is the land of gold and silver.

EAGLE RIVER CANON

Beyond Leadville is the wonderful Canon of the Eagle, with its many mines and its beautiful dashing river. Near Belden station one can see from the car windows the little mining city of Gilman, 2,000 feet above the tracks. It is through this canon that the Denver & Rio Grande Western has recently completed its double tracking, westbound trains taking one side of the river, and eastbound the other.

MOUNT OF THE HOLY CROSS

Chiselled out by the forces of Nature, centuries before the dawn of human history, was this sacred emblem, which is visible far to the left after passing through Eagle River Canon and just before reaching Minturn. High up, almost to the mountain's top, stands this monument of Christianity in the form of a cross of snow. During the warm days of June, July and August it is very plain, being caused by the winter's snow remaining in two transverse canons on the mountain side.

WALLS OF THE CANON, COLORADO RIVER

The Eagle River joins the Colorado near Dotsero, and soon the train enters the magnificent Canon of the Colorado River, whose walls, with their wonderful resemblance to masonry, rise many hundreds of feet above the track. The Colorado is one of the largest streams in Colorado, and its great canon presents a succession of beautiful scenes which no tourist should miss.

SHOSHONE

About midway down the Canon of the Colorado River is situated Shoshone, at the intake of the Colorado Power Company, whose tunnel carries the water two miles through the mountains to a point where it is returned to the river, and whose wires, suspended on steel towers, extend over the mountains to the city of Denver, 300 miles away, furnishing the "Queen City of the Plains" with electricity for power and illumination.

HANGING LAKE

A beautifully clear and sparkling body of water, set like an emerald gem in a basin hollowed out of the mountain side, near Glenwood Springs, Colorado. The side of the mountain consists of a series of terraces covered with moss and other luxuriant growth, over with the clear water from the lake flows in veil-like sheets. The lake itself, with the towering cliffs above it, and the terraces below, presents, amidst its setting of evergreen trees, a scene well worth visiting.

GLENWOOD SPRINGS

On the westbound trip Glenwood Springs is reached just after passing through the beautiful Canon of the Colorado River. This is an ideal health resort because of its hot mineral springs—ten great and many small ones. The large springs are estimated to send forth, every minute, 8,000 gallons of boiling water, equaling thirty times the flow of the Hot Springs of Arkansas. Here is situated the Hotel Colorado, one of the most magnificent hostelries in the Rocky Mountain region. Among the big trees, lawns, drives, terraces, etc., is the famous open-air swimming pool, while a quarter of a mile away is the great Vapor Cave.

CURECANTI NEEDLE, BLACK CANON OF THE GUNNISON

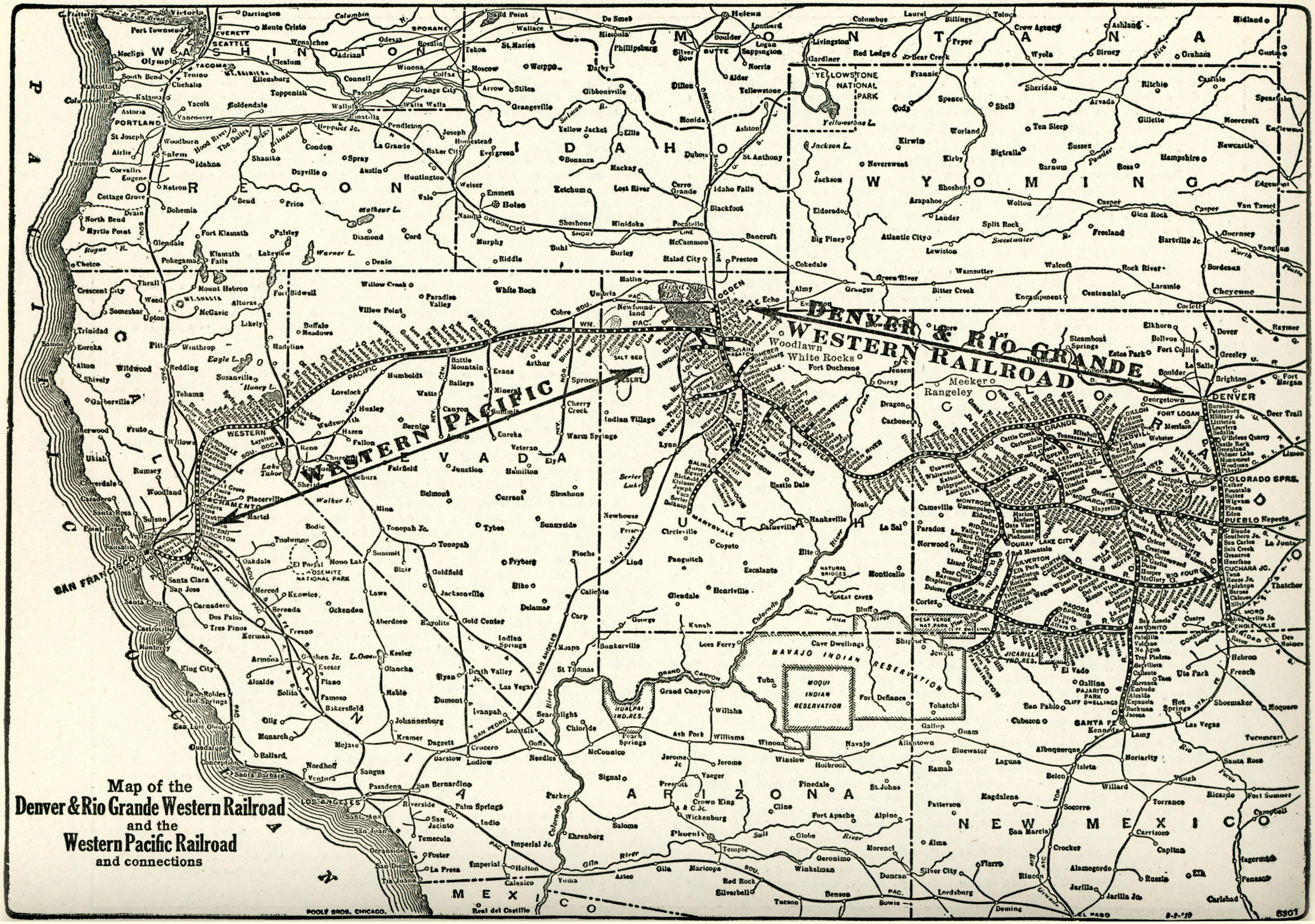
This is where the Denver & Rio Grande Western Railroad gets its official emblem. The "Needle" is a towering natural monument of solid stone, located in the Black Canon of the Gunnison, on the Marshall Pass Line. Truly there is no gorge in all the Rocky Range, that presents a greater variety of scenic grandeur. The Curecanti Needle is the most striking feature, while a short distance away is beautiful Chipeta Falls.

TOLTEC GORGE

En route to Durango the train makes numerous windings and turnings along the border line between Colorado and New Mexico—sometimes in one state and sometimes in the other. As the advance is made around the mountain spurs and deep ravines, glimpses are caught of profound depths and towering heights, and then the train, after making a detour around Phantom Curve, plunges into the blackness of a tunnel and emerges above the impressive Toltec Gorge, at an altitude of 9,600 feet. Soon after leaving the tunnel the Garfield Monument will be seen on the left, near the brink of the great chasm.

ANIMAS CANON

Northward from Durango the train traverses the beautiful Valley of the Animas—the full Spanish name being "Rio de las Animas Perdidas," or "River of Lost Souls,"—with its fields of waving grain, its well kept orchards and gardens and its thrifty homes. Soon the valley becomes more broken and contracted, the approaching walls grow more precipitous and the smooth meadows give place to stately pines and sighing sycamores. The road climbs and clings to the rising cliffs, and presently the earth and stately pines have receded and the train rolls along a mere granite shelf in mid-air, but the startled traveler quickly loses all apprehension in the wondrous beauty and grandeur of the scene.


Map of the
Denver & Rio Grande Western Railroad
and the
Western Pacific Railroad
and connections
DENVER & RIO GRANDE WESTERN RAILROAD
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POOLE BROS. CHICAGO.
6307